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# U.S. District Court District of Columbia (Washington, DC) CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:17-cv-02108-CRC

AQUALLIANCE v. NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION Assigned to: Judge Christopher R. Cooper

Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 10/11/2017 Date Terminated: 06/17/2019

Jury Demand: None

Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of

Information Act

Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

#### **Plaintiff**

**AOUALLIANCE** 

a Not-for-Profit Corporation

represented by Matt Kenna

PUBLIC INTEREST ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

679 E. 2nd Avenue

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Durango, CO 81301 (970) 749–9149

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LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

**Rachel Doughty** 

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Email: <u>rdoughty@greenfirelaw.com</u> <u>ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED</u>

V.

**Defendant** 

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

represented by Wyneva Johnson

U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 555 Fourth Street, NW Washington, DC 20530

(202) 252–2518 Fax: (202) 252–2599

Email: wyneva.johnson@usdoj.gov

LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
10/11/2017	1	COMPLAINT against NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090–5154373) filed by AQUALLIANCE. (Attachments: # 1 Civil Cover Sheet, # 2 Summons to US Attorney Civil Process Clerk, # 3 Summons to Attorney General, # 4 Summons to Defendant)(Kenna, Matt) (Entered: 10/11/2017)
10/12/2017		Case Assigned to Judge Christopher R. Cooper. (zsb) (Entered: 10/12/2017)
10/12/2017	2	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachment: # 1 Notice and Consent)(zsb) (Entered: 10/12/2017)

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10/12/2017	<u>3</u>	Corporate Disclosure Statement by AQUALLIANCE. (Kenna, Matt) (Entered: 10/12/2017)
10/17/2017	<u>4</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 10/17/2017. Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 11/16/2017. (Attachments: # 1 Return Receipt)(Kenna, Matt) (Main Document 4 replaced on 10/18/2017) (znmw). (Entered: 10/17/2017)
10/17/2017	<u>5</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 10/17/17. (Attachments: # 1 Return Receipt)(Kenna, Matt) (Main Document 5 replaced on 10/18/2017) (znmw). (Entered: 10/17/2017)
10/17/2017	<u>6</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION served on 10/16/2017 (Attachments: # 1 Return Receipt)(Kenna, Matt) (Main Document 6 replaced on 10/18/2017) (znmw). Modified date of service on 10/18/2017 (znmw). (Entered: 10/17/2017)
11/08/2017	7	NOTICE of Appearance by Wyneva Johnson on behalf of NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 11/08/2017)
11/15/2017	8	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>Respond to Plaintiff's Complaint</i> by NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 11/15/2017)
11/16/2017		MINUTE ORDER granting <u>8</u> Defendant's Motion for Extension of Time. Defendant's response to the complaint shall now be due by December 18, 2017. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 11/16/2017. (lccrc2) (Entered: 11/16/2017)
11/16/2017		Set/Reset Deadlines: Answer due by 12/18/2017. (lsj) (Entered: 11/16/2017)
12/15/2017	9	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>Respond to Plaintiff's Complaint</i> by NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 12/15/2017)
12/18/2017		MINUTE ORDER granting 2 Defendant's Motion for Extension of Time. Defendant's response to the complaint shall now be due by January 18, 2018. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 12/18/2017. (lccrc2) (Entered: 12/18/2017)
01/18/2018	<u>10</u>	MOTION for Extension of Time to File Answer by NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 01/18/2018)
01/18/2018		MINUTE ORDER granting 10 Defendant's Motion for Extension of Time. Defendant's response to the complaint shall now be due by January 25, 2018. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 1/18/2018. (lccrc2) (Entered: 01/18/2018)
01/19/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Answer due by 1/25/2018. (lsj) (Entered: 01/19/2018)
01/25/2018	<u>11</u>	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>File Answer</i> by NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 01/25/2018)
01/29/2018		MINUTE ORDER granting 11 Defendant's Motion for Extension of Time. Defendant's response to the complaint shall now be due by February 1, 2018. No further extensions will be granted. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 1/29/2018. (lccrc2) (Entered: 01/29/2018)
01/29/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Answer due by 2/1/2018. (lsj) (Entered: 01/29/2018)
02/01/2018	<u>12</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION. (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 02/01/2018)
02/08/2018		MINUTE ORDER: The Court adopts all the deadlines as set forth in <u>12</u> the parties' Joint Status Report. Defendant shall file a Vaughn index by April 12, 2018. The parties shall file a further joint status report by May 10, 2018 updating the Court on the status

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		of production and, if necessary, proposing a briefing schedule. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 2/8/2018. (lccrc2) (Entered: 02/08/2018)
05/10/2018	<u>13</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by AQUALLIANCE. (Kenna, Matt) (Entered: 05/10/2018)
05/14/2018		MINUTE ORDER: In light of <u>13</u> the parties' joint status report, the summary judgment briefing schedule shall be as follows: Defendant's motion for summary judgment shall be due by June 7, 2018; Plaintiff's combined opposition and cross—motion for summary judgment shall be due by June 28, 2018; Defendant's combined opposition and reply shall be due by July 12, 2018; Plaintiff's reply shall be due by July 23, 2018. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 5/14/2018. (lccrc2) (Entered: 05/14/2018)
05/14/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Summary Judgment motions due by 6/7/2018. Response to Motion for Summary Judgment due by 6/28/2018. Reply to Motion for Summary Judgment due by 7/12/2018. Plaintiff's Reply due by 7/23/2018. (lsj) (Entered: 05/14/2018)
06/05/2018	<u>14</u>	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>File Defendant's Motion For Summary Judgment</i> , by NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 06/05/2018)
06/06/2018		MINUTE ORDER granting 14 Defendant's Motion for Extension of Time. The following briefing schedule shall now apply: Defendant's motion for summary judgment shall now be due by July 6, 2018; Plaintiff's combined opposition and cross—motion shall now be due by July 27, 2018; Defendant's combined opposition and reply shall be due by August 10, 2018; and Plaintiff's reply shall be due by August 24, 2018. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 6/6/2018. (lccrc2) (Entered: 06/06/2018)
06/06/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Summary Judgment motions due by 7/6/2018. Response to Motion for Summary Judgment due by 7/27/2018. Reply to Motion for Summary Judgment due by 8/10/2018. Plaintiff's Reply due by 8/24/2018. (lsj) (Entered: 06/06/2018)
06/06/2018	<u>15</u>	ERRATA by NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION. (Attachments: # 1 Renewed Consent Motion for an Extension of Time, # 2 Text of Proposed Order)(Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 06/06/2018)
07/03/2018	<u>16</u>	MOTION for Extension of Time to file <i>Motion for Summary Judgment</i> by NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Johnson, Wyneva) Modified on 7/5/2018 (ztd). (Entered: 07/03/2018)
07/06/2018		VACATED PURSUANT TO MINUTE ORDER ENTERED 8/8/2018MINUTE ORDER granting 16 Defendant's Motion for Extension of Time. The following briefing schedule shall now apply: Defendant's motion for summary judgment shall now be due by August 6, 2018; Plaintiff's combined opposition and cross—motion for summary judgment shall be due by August 27, 2018; Defendant's combined opposition and reply shall be due by September 10, 2018; and Plaintiff's reply shall be due by September 24, 2018. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 7/6/2018. (lccrc2) Modified on 8/8/2018 (zlsj). (Entered: 07/06/2018)
07/06/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Summary Judgment motions due by 8/6/2018. Response to Motion for Summary Judgment due by 8/27/2018. Reply to Motion for Summary Judgment due by 9/10/2018. Replies due by 9/24/2018. (lsj) (Entered: 07/06/2018)
08/06/2018	<u>17</u>	MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>file Motion for Summary Judgment</i> by NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 08/06/2018)
08/08/2018		MINUTE ORDER granting 17 Defendant's Motion for Extension of Time and vacating scheduling order entered July 6, 2018. The following briefing schedule shall now apply: Defendant's motion for summary judgment shall be due by September 6, 2018; Plaintiff's combined opposition and cross–motion for summary judgment shall be due by September 27, 2018; Defendant's combined opposition and reply shall be due by October 10, 2018; and Plaintiff's reply shall be due by October 24, 2018. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 8/8/2018. (lccrc2) (Entered: 08/08/2018)

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08/08/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Summary Judgment motions due by 9/6/2018. Response to and Cross Motion for Summary Judgment due by 9/27/2018. Reply to Motion for Summary Judgment due by 10/10/2018. Plaintiff's Replies due by 10/24/2018. (lsj) (Entered: 08/08/2018)
08/30/2018	<u>18</u>	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>File Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment</i> , by NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 08/30/2018)
08/31/2018		VACATED PURSUANT TO MINUTE ORDER ENTERED ON 11/9/2018MINUTE ORDER granting 18 Defendant's Motion for Extension of Time and vacating scheduling order entered August 8, 2018. The following briefing schedule shall now apply: Defendant's motion for summary judgment shall be due by October 5, 2018; Plaintiff's combined opposition and cross—motion for summary judgment shall be due by October 26, 2018; and Defendant's opposition and reply shall be due by November 9, 2018. Any further motions for extensions of time will be looked upon with disfavor. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 8/31/2018. (lccrc2) Modified on 11/13/2018 (zlsj). (Entered: 08/31/2018)
08/31/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Summary Judgment motions due by 10/5/2018. Response to Motion for Summary Judgment due by 10/26/2018. Reply to Motion for Summary Judgment due by 11/9/2018. (znbn) (Entered: 08/31/2018)
11/08/2018	<u>19</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION. (Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 11/08/2018)
11/09/2018		MINUTE ORDER: In light of the parties' 19 joint status report, the summary judgment briefing schedule set by the Court in its 8/31/2018 order is hereby vacated. The parties shall file an updated joint status report on or before November 27, 2018. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 11/9/2018. (lccrc2) (Entered: 11/09/2018)
11/13/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 11/27/2018 (lsj) (Entered: 11/13/2018)
11/26/2018	<u>20</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by AQUALLIANCE. (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Kenna, Matt) (Entered: 11/26/2018)
11/28/2018		MINUTE ORDER: In light of the parties' joint status report, the Court adopts the following briefing schedule for the motion for litigation costs and attorneys' fees: Plaintiff's motion shall be due on or before January 14, 2019; Defendant's response shall be due on or before February 13, 2019; and Plaintiff's reply shall be due on or before February 27, 2019. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 11/28/2018. (lccrc2) (Entered: 11/28/2018)
11/29/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Motions due by 1/14/2019. Response to Motion due by 2/13/2019. Reply due by 2/27/2019. (lsj) (Entered: 11/29/2018)
01/14/2019	<u>21</u>	MOTION for Attorney Fees <i>and Costs</i> by AQUALLIANCE (Attachments: # 1 Declaration of Barbara Vlamis, # 2 Declaration of Matt Kenna with Exhibits, # 3 Declaration of Rachel Doughty with Exhibits, # 4 Text of Proposed Order)(Kenna, Matt) (Entered: 01/14/2019)
02/12/2019	<u>22</u>	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>File a Response to Plaintiff's Motion for Attorney Fees and Costs</i> , by NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 02/12/2019)
02/13/2019		MINUTE ORDER granting <u>22</u> Motion for Extension of Time to Respond to Plaintiff's Motion for Attorneys' Fees. Defendant's response is due on or before March 14, 2019, and Plaintiff's reply is due on or before April 15, 2019. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 2/13/2019. (lccrc2) (Entered: 02/13/2019)
02/14/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Responses due by 3/14/2019. Replies due by 4/15/2019. (lsj) (Entered: 02/14/2019)
03/14/2019	23	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>file a response to Plaintiff's Motion for Attorney Fees and Costs</i> by NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 03/14/2019)

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03/15/2019		MINUTE ORDER granting <u>23</u> Defendant's Motion for Extension of Time to File Response to Plaintiff's Motion for Attorneys' Fees. The response shall now be due on or before March 18, 2019. Plaintiff's reply shall now be due on or before April 18, 2019. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 3/15/2019. (lccrc2) (Entered: 03/15/2019)
03/15/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Responses due by 3/18/2019 Replies due by 4/18/2019. (lsj) (Entered: 03/15/2019)
03/18/2019	<u>24</u>	RESPONSE re 21 MOTION for Attorney Fees and Costs filed by NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION. (Attachments: # 1 Declaration of S. Martin, # 2 Exhibit 1 of Martin Decl., # 3 Exhibit 2 of Martin Decl., # 4 Exhibit 3 of Martin Decl., # 5 Exhibit 4 of Martin Decl., # 6 Exhibit 5 of Martin Decl., # 7 Exhibit 6 of Martin Decl., # 8 Exhibit 7 of Martin Decl., # 9 Exhibit 8 of Martin Decl., # 10 Exhibit 9 of Martin Decl., # 11 Exhibit 10 of Martin Decl., # 12 Exhibit 11 of Martin Decl.)(Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 03/18/2019)
03/19/2019	<u>25</u>	ERRATA by NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION. (Attachments: # 1 Memorandum in Support, # 2 Declaration of S. Martin, # 3 Exhibit 1 of Martin Decl., # 4 Exhibit 2 of Martin Decl., # 5 Exhibit 3 of Martin Decl., # 6 Exhibit 4 of Martin Decl., # 7 Exhibit 5 of Martin Decl., # 8 Exhibit 6 of Martin Decl., # 9 Exhibit 7 of Martin Decl., # 10 Exhibit 8 of Martin Decl., # 11 Exhibit 9 of Martin Decl., # 12 Exhibit 10 of Martin Decl., # 13 Exhibit 11 of Martin Decl., # 14 Exhibit 12 of Martin Decl., # 15 Exhibit 13 of Martin Decl., # 16 Exhibit 14 of Martin Decl.)(Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 03/19/2019)
04/10/2019	<u>26</u>	ERRATA by AQUALLIANCE <u>21</u> MOTION for Attorney Fees <i>and Costs</i> filed by AQUALLIANCE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Corrected Document re ECF # 21)(Kenna, Matt) (Entered: 04/10/2019)
04/10/2019	<u>27</u>	REPLY to opposition to motion re <u>21</u> MOTION for Attorney Fees <i>and Costs</i> filed by AQUALLIANCE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration of Matt Kenna, Second)(Kenna, Matt) (Entered: 04/10/2019)
06/12/2019	<u>28</u>	ORDER denying <u>21</u> Motion for Attorney Fees. A separate Memorandum Opinion will accompany this Order. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 6/12/2019. (lccrc2) (Entered: 06/12/2019)
06/12/2019	<u>29</u>	MEMORANDUM OPINION re <u>28</u> Order denying Plaintiff's Motion for Attorney Fees. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 6/12/2019. (lccrc2) (Entered: 06/12/2019)